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MEDIA ADVISORY:

Cutting-edge technical education at new Redford site with Michigan Technical Academy High School Grand Opening

LANSING — Students will have greatly improved opportunities for career technical training at the new site of the Michigan Technical Academy High School, which will formally open tomorrow. Dr. Michael Witucki will be the master of ceremonies for the grand opening of the high school in Redford on Friday at 4 p.m.

The high school is one of three sites for the K-12 Technical Academy, formerly known as Michigan Automotive Academy. The high school has been in Romulus since chartered in 1995. It operates under Central Michigan University.

Sen. Bruce Patterson, 7th District, will speak very personally about the importance of technical education in his own life story, and of its significance in Michigan today under changing and challenging conditions. He will focus on the opportunities given to the students by this cutting-edge facility. Sen. Patterson chairs the Senate Committee on Technology & Energy.

The building that will house the high school was once a school, then sold and reused as offices, and is now completely gutted and refurbished for the Technical Academy. An 18,000 square-foot automotive bay was added, with eight lifts, and further construction is slated. Auto mechanics, electronics, computers, and robotics are among the specialized courses students can add to the core curriculum. About 260 students are now enrolled at the high school. Dr. Roger Sisler, Ph.D., the Academy's principal, says that students from across Wayne County attend the school.

The new Academy location is 23750 Elmira Street in Redford. It is on the east side of Telegraph, just south of Plymouth Road. From the north, take the second turnaround; the entrance to Elmira Street is beside the McDonald's restaurant.